HOUSE No. 995

By Ms. Fox of Boston, petition of Gloria L. Fox and others relative to the sharing of information concerning children in community based juvenile justice programs. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Gloria L. Fox
Patricia D. Jehlen
Gale D. Candaras
Byron Rushing
Benjamin Swan

Louis L. Kafka
Alice K. Wolf
David M. Torrisi
Alice Hanlon Peisch

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO COMMUNITY BASED JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 The second paragraph of section 1 of chapter 221 of the acts of
- 2 2004 is hereby amended by striking out the second sentence and
- 3 inserting in place thereof the following sentence:— Employees
- 4 and representatives of the department of social services, the
- 5 department of mental health, and the department of public health
- 6 may share information regarding the existence of services, treat-
- 7 ment plans, and the identity of providers; provided, however, that
- 8 the child's parent or guardians must be notified in writing 14 days
- 9 prior to the date when any information concerning his child will
- 10 be discussed; but said employees and representatives shall share
- 11 privileged information only when authorized by order of the juve-
- 12 nile court in requests involving a child under the age of 17 and the
- 13 district court for requests concerning adults.